

ABSTRACT

TRAINING QUALITY ASSESMENT TOOLS

5        This invention relates to a non-intrusive speech  
quality assessment system. The invention provides a method  
and apparatus for training a quality assessment tool in  
which a database comprising a plurality of samples, each  
with an associated mean opinion score, is divided into a  
10   plurality of distortion sets of samples according to a  
distortion criterion; and a distortion specific assessment  
handler for each distortion set is trained, such that a  
fit between a distortion specific quality measure  
generated from a distortion specific plurality of  
15   parameters for a sample and the mean opinion score  
associated with said sample is optimised. The invention  
also provides a method and apparatus for assessing speech  
quality in a telecommunications network in which a  
dominant distortion type is determined for a sample; a  
20   distortion specific plurality of parameters are combined  
to provide a distortion specific quality measure for each  
sample; and a quality measure is generated in dependence  
upon the distortion specific quality measure.

25   Figure 5.